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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): MIURA, et al.
Serial No.: 09/254,939
Filed: March 17, 1999
For: METHOD OF FABRICATING SEMICONDUCTOR
DEVICE HAVING TRENCH ELEMENT SEPARATION
STRUCTURE (AS AMENDED)
Group: 2814
Examiner: A. Mai

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

August 27, 2001

SIR:

The undersigned notes the Interview conducted on July 26, 2001, in connection with the above-identified application, and the Interview Summary in connection therewith mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 31, 2001. Note that a copy of this Interview Summary had previously been given to the undersigned, on the date of the Interview (July 26, 2001).

Moreover, attention is respectfully directed to the Submission under 37 CFR §1.114 filed July 26, 2001, in the above-identified application, concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal. In particular, note

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pages 14-16 of this Submission, discussing in writing the Interview on July 26, 2001. It is respectfully submitted that the remarks on pages 14-16 of the Submission filed July 26, 2001, constitutes the necessary substance of the Interview, consistent with the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure 713.04.

In connection with the Interview Summary, and emphasizing comments made on page 16 of the aforementioned Submission filed July 26, 2001, Applicants did not indicate that the prior art showed every step of the claimed process, contrary to the statement by the Examiner in the Interview Summary of this Interview on July 26, 2001. To the contrary, Applicants indicated specific steps of the claimed process, referred to, for example, in the first paragraph on page 16 of the aforementioned Submission, not disclosed or suggested by the applied prior art, such that Applicants' invention as a whole patentably distinguished over the teachings of the applied references.

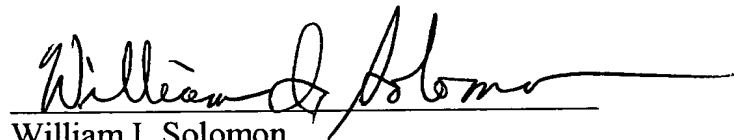
Again, the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal, and Submission, each filed July 26, 2001, are noted. Continued prosecution of the above-identified application, in light of, *inter alia*, claims as amended in the ~~aforementioned Submission and remarks therein, is respectfully requested.~~

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No.

01-2135 (500.36515VX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", is written over a horizontal line.

William I. Solomon
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